

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GEORGE 00582 221612Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00
 INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05
 OES-06 OMB-01 L-03 SCS-03 SCA-01 HEW-06 AID-05
 IGA-02 MED-03 DODE-00 IOE-00 /083 W
 -----221628Z 040825 /44

P R 221351Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4372
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0582

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR
SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON DECRIMINALIZATION OF MARIHUANA-
 LEGAL PROVISIONS GOVERNING MARIHUANA POSSESSION IN GUYANA.

REF: STATE 57902

1. IT IS AN OFFENCE OF THE DANGEROUS DRUG ORDINANCE OF THE
LEGAL CODE OF GUYANA TO CULTIVATE, PRODUCE, SELL OR OTHERWISE
DEAL IN, OR POSSESS ANY TYPE OF CANNABIS PLANT OR ITS MARIHUANA
DERIVATIVE. ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOLLOWING PENALTIES APPLICABLE
TO ALL THESE OFFENCES:

A. FOR CONVICTION ON INDICTMENT: (BEFORE HIGH COURT JUDGE
AND JURY) FINE NOT TO EXCEED G\$5,000; (US\$1.00 TO G\$2.5452) OR
PENAL SERVITUDE FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING 10 YEARS, OR BOTH.
B. FOR SUMMARY CONVICTION: (BEFORE A MAGISTRATE; NO JURY)
FINE NOT TO EXCEED G\$1,200; OR IMPRISONMENT, WITH OR WITHOUT
HARD LABOR NOT EXCEEDING 12 MONTHS; OR BOTH.

2. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL OF GEORGETOWN POLICE CRIME DIVISION
DANGEROUS DRUG ORDINANCE IS STRICTLY ENFORCED, AND
TRAFFICKING IN AND USE OF MARIHUANA IS VERY MINOR
PROBLEM IN GUYANA. 25 ARRESTS WERE MADE IN 1976, AND
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4 TO DATE IN 1977, ALL ON CHARGES OF POSSESSION, AND
ONLY SMALL QUANTITIES INVOLVED. ALL WERE TRIED OR ARE
PENDING AT MAGISTRATE LEVEL. PENALTIES GENERALLY HAVE
RANGED FROM THREE TO SIX MONTHS IMPRISONMENT, WITH AND
WITHOUT HARD LABOR. A FEW CONVICTIONS HAVE RESULTED
IN FINES ONLY NOT EXCEEDING G\$1,000.

3. WHILE EMBASSY AGREES THAT MARIHUANA IS NOT
SIGNIFICANT CRIME OR SOCIAL PROBLEM HERE, THE DRUG IS
READILY AVAILABLE ON STREETS OF GEORGETOWN. ONLY 29
ARRESTS IN 15 MONTH PERIOD IS INDICATION THAT POLICE
GIVE RELATIVELY LOW PRIORITY TO ENFORCING DANGEROUS
DRUG ORDINANCE IN FACE OF MORE PRESSING NEED TO DEAL
WITH CITY'S SERIOUS ROBBERY AND VIOLENT CRIME RATE.
BLACKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW, DRUG CONTROL, NARCOTICS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GEORGE00582
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770098-0167
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770336/aaaabeyq.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: e8f334b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 57902
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3038482
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: SNAR, GY
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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